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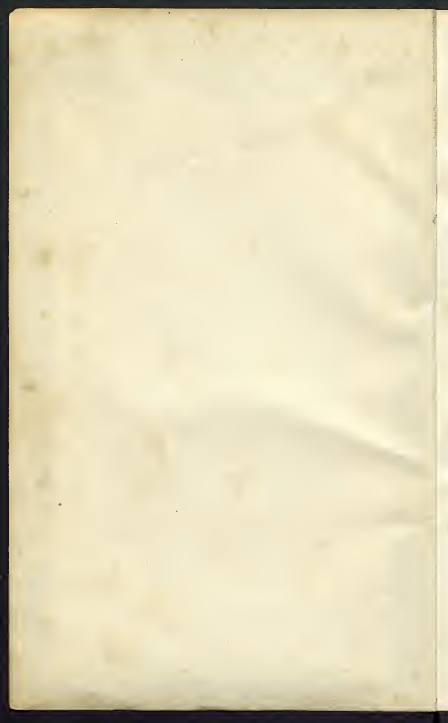
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# NOTICE TO FOREIGN

## AND COLONIAL BUYERS.

*ANY information regarding the various breeds of sheep, their characteristics, and suitability for various soils and climates, and for crossing purposes will be gladly given by the following Flock Book Secretaries; to whom we are indebted for much assistance in the preparation of this work.*

### CHEVIOT.

JOHN ROBSON, Newton, Bellingham.

### COTSWOLD.

\* JAMES W. TAYLER, Cold Aston, Cheltenham.

### DEVON LONG-WOOL.

\* JOHN RISDON, Wiveliscombe, Somerset.

### HAMPSHIRE DOWN.

\* JAS. E. RAWLENCE, 49, Canal, Salisbury.

### LEICESTER.

JOSEPH CRUST, Exchange Street, Driffield.

### LINCOLN.

S. UPTON, St. Benedict's Square, Lincoln.

### OXFORD DOWN.

R. HENRY REW, Broad Sanctuary Chambers, Westminster,  
London, S.W.

### ROMNEY MARSH.

\* W. W. CHAPMAN, Fitzalan House, Arundel Street, Strand,  
London, W.C.

### ROSCOMMON.

\* MATHEW FLANAGAN, J. P., Tomona, Tulsk, Co. Roscommon.

### SHROPSHIRE.

\* A. MANSELL & Co., College Hill, Shrewsbury.

### SOUTHDOWN.

W. J. WICKISON, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

### SUFFOLK.

\* ERNEST PRENTICE, 64, Orford Street, Ipswich.

### WENSLEYDALE BLUE-FACED.

W. RHODES, Lundholme, Westhouse, Nr. Kirkby Lonsdale.

### WENSLEYDALE LONG-WOOL.

\* T. J. OTHER, Howgrave, Wath, S.O., Yorks.

*These marked \* also act as Agents for the buying and selling  
of stud sheep for export.*

Every  
Breeder



WHOSE NAME  
APPEARS  
IN THIS BOOK  
USES

COOPER'S

DIP

ON HIS FLOCKS.



THE  
SHEEP BREEDERS'  
DIRECTORY.

WITH HINTS ON CROSS-BREEDING AND ON  
THE REARING OF SHEEP FOR EXPORT.

*By*  
*THE PROPRIETORS OF COOPER'S DIPPING POWDER.*

---

WILLIAM COOPER & NEPHEWS,  
BERKHAMSTED.



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# ADDRESS TO THE WORLD'S SHEEPMEN.

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*WHEN one person wants to buy, and another to sell, it is of advantage to both that they should be brought into contact.*

*Throughout the sheep-rearing countries of the world, the conviction has spread that there is "money in mutton"; in other words, that it pays best to grow sheep producing good meat as well as good wool. Hence the progress of the frozen mutton trade.*

*Practically all the best "freezers" that come to Europe are pure British or crossed with British blood. Such crosses with high class sires produce mutton of good quality and size, maturing much earlier than the Merino.*

*For the present, at any rate, England alone can supply the demand for these stud rams.*

*There are millions of acres of sheep-land in the colonies, which in time will be covered with flocks. There are thousands of present sheepmen who are not yet initiated into the profits of cross-breeding, but who will speedily become customers for stud rams, and there are hundreds of British farmers who, up to now, have never troubled to cultivate this trade.*

*The Sheep Breeders' Directory is intended to instruct the Home flock-master in the wants of the Foreign trade, and the Foreign buyer where he can rely upon getting his wants supplied.*

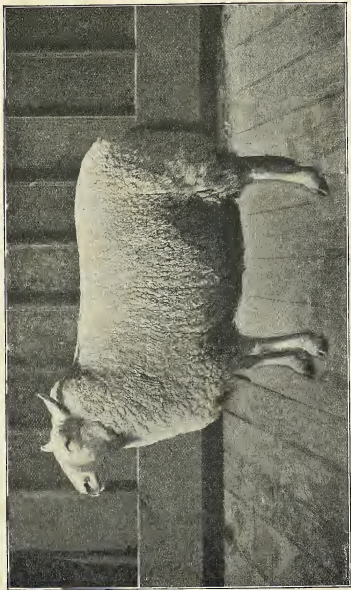
*Every farmer whose name appears in this list of breeders has a registered flock, which is a guarantee of the purity of the breed.*

*We entertain a strong hope that a larger number of Home sheepmen will turn their attention to this rapidly growing and most profitable branch of Agriculture.*

*The following descriptions of the various breeds of British sheep are either written or approved by the Flock Book officials. Though allowance should be made for the natural partiality felt by breeders for their own class of sheep, there is no doubt that in most cases the pre-eminent qualities claimed for each particular breed are justified in the special conditions of soil and climate of their own locality. Colonial and Foreign buyers will do well to study these points of special fitness before finally committing themselves to any particular cross, which may or may not be the best for their own district.*

WILLM. COOPER & NEPHEWS.

CHEMICAL WORKS,  
BERKHAMSTED, 1898.



**CHEVIOT EWE.**

Winner of Sweepstakes and Cooper Sheep Dip Special Premiums, World's Fair, Chicago.

# British Breeds of Sheep having Flock Books.

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## CHEVIOT.

*From "Flock Book."*

THIS hardy and valuable mountain breed emanates from the Southern districts of Scotland, but has spread itself into the borders of England. It is much less active and more docile than the usual mountain sheep.

From a cross between the Cheviot and Leicester, has arisen the breed known as the Border Leicester.

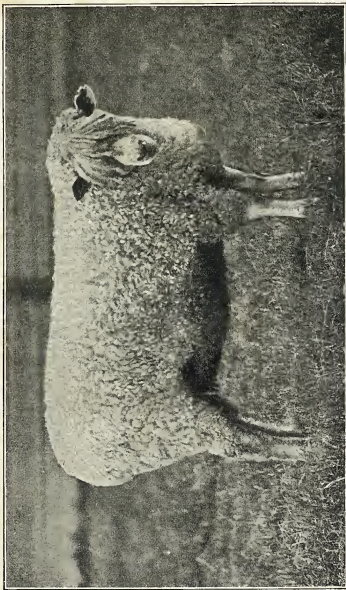
The official description of the breed is as follows:—

"A Cheviot Tup, when arrived at maturity, weighs when fat, at least 200 lbs. live weight. He should have a lively carriage, bright eyes, and plenty of action; head of medium length, broad between the eyes, well covered with short, fine white hair; ears, nicely rounded, and not too long, erect from the head—low set, or drooping ones, are a decided fault, but at the same time, they should not be what are called "hare lugged," that is, too near each other, as that indicates a narrow face, which generally denotes a narrow body; nose and nostrils black, full, and wide open; neck strong, and not too long; breast broad and open, with the legs set well apart; ribs well sprung, and carried well back towards the hock bones, as a long weak back is about the worst fault a Cheviot can have; back broad and well covered with mutton; hind quarters, full, straight, and square; the tail well hung and nicely fringed with wool; legs standing squarely from the body, (if bent hocks, either out or in, the latter especially, are looked upon as a weakness); bone broad and flat, and all covered with short, hard, white hair. He ought to grow a fleece weighing 10 or 12 lbs. of fairly fine wool, densely grown, and of equal quality, coarseness on the tops of the hocks is a decided blemish; the wool should meet the hair at the ears and cheeks in a decided ruffle, bareness there or at the throat is inadmissible, and it should grow nicely down to the hocks and knees; the belly and breast ought also to be well covered".

"The same description, when modified, will apply to ewes also, which will weigh 100 to 150 lbs. A hill flock should clip on the average, 4½ lbs. each; if widders are kept, that average will be increased. A lot of draft ewes, when fed moderately fat, will weigh from 95 to 100 lbs., and old widders 160 lbs., live weight. Along with feeding qualities, Cheviots embody great hardihood and milking properties, for they are expected to stand great privations on their native hills, in hard winters and backward springs. The perfect Cheviot is one which will live and thrive well on the hardest keep, and when taken to lower and better ground, prove itself equal to the occasion by growing larger and becoming fat."

*Secretary, JOHN ROBSON,*

*Newton,  
Bellingham.*



**COTSWOLD RAM.**

*Photo by Wm. Cooper & Nephews*

First Prize, Royal Show, Manchester, 1897. R. & W. T. GARRE.

## COTSWOLD.

THE COTSWOLD is claimed to be the oldest of the principal long-wool breeds in England, and it certainly had taken a prominent position as early as the time of Edward the Third, when its wool, evidently finer than it is at present, was in great request.

Any modification of the original type (other than by selection), has been obtained by the introduction of the improved Leicester. Many of the other long-wool breeds have sprung from the Cotswold, the Oxford Down being the result of a cross between the Cotswold Ram and the Hampshire Down Ewe.

As a breed, it is undoubtedly among the hardiest of the hardy, and provided the flock is not much disturbed, it will do actually better spread thinly on a poor exposed soil than thickly on a richer soil. It is said to have been imported into Spain for the purpose of crossing with the well-known Spanish Merino flocks in early times.

An ideal Cotswold is thus described by Mr. W. S. HARMER:—

"The head should be wide between the eyes, and the eye itself, full, dark, and prominent, but mild and kindly, and in no way coarse about the brow; the face should be proportionately wide to the space between the eyes, but not too flat, and should run off much the same width to the nostrils, which must be well expanded and somewhat broader than the face, with the skin on the nose of a dark colour; the cheek is full, and, as is the face, well covered with white hair, a just perceptible blue tinge on the cheek and round the eye being rather fancied; the ear, long, but not heavy, of medium thickness, and covered with the same short soft hair, should be well carried up, while black spots on the point of the ear are not considered objectionable; the top of the head should not be coarse nor bald, but covered with wool, not hair, and the Cotswold is to be distinguished by a fine tuft of wool on the forehead; the head should be sufficiently long to save it from being called short and thick, but it should not have a long lean appearance; grey faces still crop up occasionally in all the best hill flocks; the neck should be big and muscular, and should be gently curved to enable the sheep to carry the head well up, thereby giving the animal a grand appearance; the neck should be slightly smaller at the ears than where it comes from the shoulders; the shoulders should lay well back, and the point of the shoulder should be well covered with flesh, as also the chins; the ribs should be deep, well sprung from the back; the hips and loin wide, and well covered with flesh; the rump should be carried out on a level with the back, giving the animal a square-looking frame; the leg of mutton well let down to the hock, and thick on the outside; the legs, both front and hind, should be straight, moderate in length, well set outside the body; the pastern joints, both front and hind, should be short; the whole body should have a firm solid touch (not loose and flabby), and be well covered with a thick-set, long, and lustrous wool."

Another writer says:—"Cotswold Sheep are capable of enduring great hardships, succeeding well in exposed situations, and on nearly

all kinds of soil adapted for sheep farming. They produce a great amount of mutton and wool at an early age, their rapid maturity and disposition to fatten enabling them to be brought to market at from 9 to 12 months old, with ordinary feeding, at a weight of from 90 lbs. to 112 lbs., while it is no unusual thing for the best flocks to turn out 120 to 130 lb. sheep at that age. The meat, especially when young, is succulent and well-flavoured. The Cotswold Sheep grows a fleece which, *for weight and substance, no other part of the world can rival*. The staple of the wool is long and mellow, and the average weight of the fleece throughout a well-managed first-rate flock would be from 9 lbs. to 11 lbs. of washed wool."

Various experiments upon the fattening qualities of sheep, show that the Cotswolds occupy a very high position in the increased weight for a given amount of food, while they have to a large extent, immunity from foot-rot. They cross well with any breed, and are prolific mothers and good nurses. They seem to do best on limestone and chalky soils.

The principal sales are held on the 1st Tuesday in August, and 1st Monday in September, at Cirencester, and the 2nd Wednesday in August, at Oxford.

*Secretary, JAMES W. TAYLER,  
Cold Aston,  
Cheltenham.*

## DEVON LONG-WOOL.

THE DEVON LONG-WOOL is descended from the Bampton Sheep, which were an excellent strong, hardy breed.

Bred in the district from which they took their name, these sheep were mated with Bakewell's Dishley blood, and from time to time with rams from the South Hams (Totnes. district), whilst some flock-masters took character and strength from Lincoln blood.

The Devon Long-wool is found over a great portion of Devon, Somerset, and Cornwall, and no rams in these counties produce better results on Dorset Horns, Dartmoors, and Exmoor ewes, either for fat lambs, or for producing fat hoggets. As these sheep are spread over so wide a district with diversity of climate, there has for many years been no need for breeders to go outside for fresh blood, hence the Devon Long-wools have for a very long time been recognised as a prime bred sheep of high character.

Wherever they have been exported to, they have at once acclimatised themselves, and no breed thrives better. As a cross with Merinos they are excellent, as their wool is of a high character.

MR. ALFRED HAWKESWORTH, Wool Expert of the Technological Museum, Sydney, Australia, says:—

"Upon opening out a Devon Long-wool fleece, there is a beautiful metallic lustre, which could be easily taken for Lincoln. Although a strong deep-grown wool, it has a silky texture, being very soft and pliable, not surpassed by any long-wool breed. Fibres are true and even to the end, and would give satisfactory returns, either in the combing machines, drawing, or spinning frames. It has high-class dyeing properties and would take delicate shades.

"As wool producers they stand in a high position, as the shearling rams produce from 18 to 24 lbs., and some even more; after being shorn as lambs, when they cut 3 lb. or over, the ewes cut from 12 to 14 lbs.

"For producing chilled or frozen mutton with Merinos they are excellent, being full of high-class lean flesh. They are a prolific breed, the lambs come with strength, and the ewes are good mothers.

"If fat lambs are required, they can be had from 36 to 40 lbs. each at 10 to 12 weeks; whilst for fat hoggets, they are killed at from 18 to 24 lbs. per quarter, and old ewes up to 50 lbs. per quarter."

The Devon Long-wool ram should have a well developed head, covered with wool; a clean and striking countenance, and prominent eye; strong, well-set neck; the body symmetrical and deep, on short well-formed legs; the skin should be a rich pink colour; the face white, and the nose a full black; the ears a fair length, with black spots on them; the belly and purse should be well covered with wool, and the fleece, breech, and shoulders, included, to be of one quality of rich curly wool, with long soft staple, and thick in the skin.

The Devon breeders have at last recognised the value of a Flock Book, and it now only remains for Colonists to try these sheep to find them second to none.

The principal sales are held at Taunton, Tiverton, Exeter, Dulverton, and Barnstaple, in the month of July.

*Secretary, JOHN RISDON,  
Wiveliscombe,  
Somerset.*



**DEVON LONG-WOOL SHEARLING RAMS.**

Bred by E. R. BERRY TORR.

## DORSET HORN.

*Extracted from the "Flock Book."*

**T**HIS is a horned breed of considerable antiquity and emanates from the pastures of Dorsetshire. Its chief characteristics are that it takes the ram two months earlier than any other breed, and very frequently brings a second crop of lambs within the year, though this is not a good general practice.

They are straight and deep in the body, the ribs well arched, the loin broad, and the neck well set on; they are full in the shoulders, without coarseness, and the hind limb well let down towards the shank, forming a good leg of mutton with small bone; the general features are pleasing, the head standing well up, the horns thin, with a symmetrical curl, the eye quick and lively, the face rather long and thin, and lips and nose pink or flesh coloured; they are excellent nurses, good folding sheep, and the mutton is well flavoured.

The breed readily adapts itself to other varieties of soil and climate. It fattens readily, matures early, incurs little risk in lambing, and is generally hardy. The ewes produce from 5 lbs. to 7 lbs. of wool, and yearling rams 10 lbs., to 14 lbs., which always commands a relatively high price.

The principal Fair for the sale of Dorset Horn Sheep, especially early lambing ewes, is Dorchester Poundbury Fair, on the last Thursday in December, where may be seen from 12 to 16 thousand sheep.

*Secretary, F. V. ENSOR,  
Dorchester.*

## HAMPSHIRE DOWN.

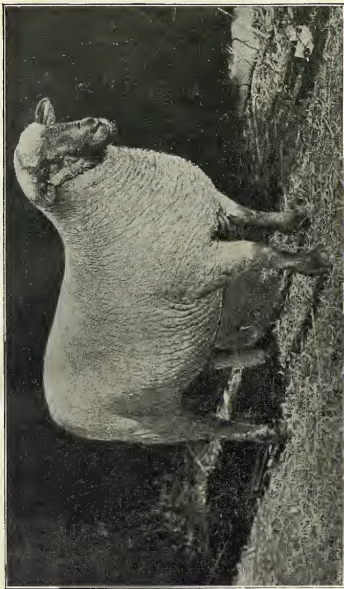
*By the Secretary.*

**A**MONG the breeds of sheep which have sprung into recognition during the last forty years, none have made such rapid progress in public estimation as the Hampshire Down.

Reference to the English Flock Book will show the vast extent of its distribution, not only in the counties of Berks, Hants, Wilts, and Dorset, but in districts far remote in the North and East. One of the features of the breed is that it has shown itself to be especially adapted for the high lying and barren uplands of the chalk, where holdings are exceptionally large, and flocks number from 1000 upwards. Where flocks of other breeds number one or two hundred ewes, the Hampshire Down flocks are seldom under 300, and hence the aggregate number of pure-bred Hampshire Sheep compares well with other breeds. It is one of the parents of the Oxfordshire Down, and Hampshire crosses are the best for the production of fat lamb and prime mutton.

Its ample size (for after the Lincoln, it is the heaviest British race), gives it a commanding and substantial appearance. Its wonderful character, as seen in the well-covered head; well-placed and mobile ears; bold features; black face, bordered with snow-white wool; its





HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEARLING RAM.  
First Prize, Royal Show, Warwick. Owner, H. LAMBERT.

ample bone guaranteeing a large proportion of lean flesh; its square and symmetrical form; and its fine lustrous wool; all produce admiration which close acquaintance is certain to intensify.

It is, however, in more substantial qualities that the Hampshire Down particularly excels. These are his hardihood, rapid growth, early maturity, weight and value.

#### HARDIHOOD.

Although a south-country breed, the Hampshire Sheep is found on exposed and unsheltered heights. He roams over the unbounded tracts of Salisbury Plain, and the bleak uplands of Hampshire, Wiltshire, and the neighbouring chalk districts. He can stand the severest winters, as was well shown in the exceptionally severe character of the season of 1894-5, when high-bred Hampshire Down Teds did well upon rotten turnips and hay, without any cake or corn. They are seldom affected with sturdy, and the mortality is exceptionally light in dry flocks. Flocks of 200 Teds are frequently brought through winter without a single loss, and with the exception of the critical period of lambing, deaths seldom occur. In large flocks sheep or lambs are seldom lost from April to December, inclusive.

#### RAPID GROWTH.

The extremely rapid growth of Hampshire Lambs has earned them a deserved reputation for fattening at an early age.

A well-bred Hampshire Lamb, on good keep, will increase at the rate of  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. of weight per day from birth, and will weigh 113 lbs. on May 31st. If 60 per cent. of this is carcase weight, such a lamb will weigh 68 lbs. or 17 lbs. per quarter. This is a heavy weight, but is realized without difficulty.

The fact that Hampshire Ram Lambs are fit for service in July is sufficient proof of their rapid growth, and at that time they are often heavier than the Ewes they serve. It is the general ability of Hampshire Lambs to produce heavy weights in July or August, which is their strength, and which places them upon a pedestal with reference to early maturity, not attainable by any other breed of sheep.

#### STRENGTH OF CONSTITUTION.

The Hampshire Ewe lasts well. The ordinary custom is to sell ewes out at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  years old, or in early autumn after they have produced their third set of lambs. Every good flock, however, contains ewes of marked excellence, which are from six to eight years old, and cases are on record in which favourite ewes have stood in the flock until 14 years old. This shows that capacity for the early maturity runs concurrently with great constitutional strength.

Ordinary well-fattened Hampshire mutton always shows a preponderance of lean meat of fine grain, dark colour, and appetizing flavour, similar to the best type of Southdown mutton.

The fleece is of medium length, but is set closely in the skin, and teds readily clip 12 to 14 lbs. of unwashed wool.

For crossing purposes, the Hampshire is probably unrivalled. If rams of this breed are used upon Leicester, Lincoln, Southdown, or Cotswold Sheep, the result is lambs of strong constitution, rapid growth, and fine quality as fat lambs. If, instead of fattening, the lambs are

grown into wethers, they produce wonderful weights of both mutton and wool, combined with the high quality of mutton which is always seen in half-bred Down sheep.

The chief sales of stud rams are held at Alresford, last Thursday in July; at Weyhill, last Friday in July; at Britford, August 12th; and at Wilton, September 12th.

Secretary, J. E. RAWLENCE,  
The Canal,  
Salisbury.

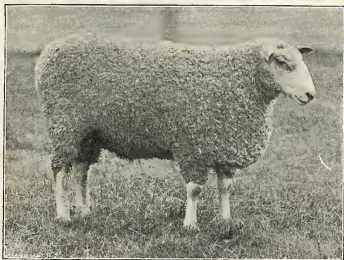
## LEICESTER.

*From the "Flock Book."*

THE LEICESTER has, during the last few years, made rapid strides towards perfection, and come most prominently to the front. As their name implies, they are descended from the original Leicester, which is regarded as the most important of our long-woolled breeds, arriving early at maturity and possessing great aptitude to fatten, points which have caused them to be more largely used than any other in crossing and improving other breeds of sheep. By continuous and judicious crossing with other sires of large size and heavy fleeces, a class of sheep has been produced of corresponding proportions, with a fullness of wool, yet retaining the original propensity to fatten. They are very hardy and well adapted for any climate or soil, during the severe winter months being folded on turnips in the open fields on the bleak Wolds of Yorkshire, where they feed quicker than any other class of sheep that have been wintered on the same situation, requiring less artificial food, and with a minimum proportion of loss; they are also remarkably sound in their feet, and but seldom attacked by what is generally termed "foot-rot." This hardiness of constitution is very desirable in any class of sheep, wherever situated, and is of special importance in the case of those reared in exposed situations, where natural food may at times be scarce, and artificial substitutes not easily procurable.

Not only are the Leicesters a well-constituted class of sheep, but good breeders, having for a long time enjoyed a reputation as the very best on the Yorkshire Wolds. They are splendidly adapted for crossing with Colonial and Foreign Sheep, and can be specially recommended for that purpose. In regard to wool the Leicester is very wealthy, having frequently been known to produce fleeces of clean washed wool weighing from 21 up to 28 lbs., and the coat is of a beautiful texture. They are up-standing; a good size; exceptionally full in the neck and shoulders; the chest broad and deep; back broad and firm to the touch; and quarters of a good length. The sheep attain to a great weight, records showing that they have turned the scales at 240 lbs.

Secretary, JOSEPH CRUST,  
Exchange Street,  
Driffield..



LEICESTER SHEARLING RAM.

First Prize, Royal Show, Manchester. Owner, J. J. SIMPSON.

## LINCOLN LONG-WOOL.

*From "Flock Book."*

THE LINCOLN SHEEP have been in existence, and recognised as the established breed of the county, upwards of one hundred and fifty years. Since those early days they have been found to be so well adapted to the soil and climate of this county, that although at various times, other breeds have been tried, none have been found to supplant them, possessing, as they do, the properties of producing the most wool and mutton of any breed; 25 lbs. of washed wool being a very common weight of a fleece from a ram, as much as 32 lbs. of clean washed wool is recorded; and a good breeding flock will average from 12 to 14 lbs. each fleece. They are very hardy, whole flocks being folded on turnips during the winter months. Another great feature in the Lincoln Sheep is their early maturity and aptitude to fatten, as evidenced by their successes at the Smithfield Show, so that the Lincoln stands unrivalled, where size and wool is required, to cross with almost any breed. The breed is also less subject to Foot-rot than some of the other breeds.

At the Smithfield Show, in 1888, three Ewes weighed over 1,120 lbs., and in 1826 it is recorded in the *Farmers' Magazine* that a 3-shear Wether was killed weighing 386 lbs.; a 2-shear 364 lbs.; and a Shearling 284 lbs.; dead weight.

In 1866, at the Annual April Fair, in Lincoln, 220 Wether Hoggets, sold in one lot by the breeder, made £5 each.



**LINCOLN RAM.**

*Photo by Wm. Cooper & Nykora,*

Champion, Royal Show, Manchester, 1897. Owners, S. E. DEAN & SONS.

The Lincoln Long-wools are much esteemed in various parts of the world, especially in Australia, New Zealand, and North and South America, some flocks in those countries being kept perfectly pure, and constantly renewed and maintained by fresh blood from home.

The best specimens in the older flocks of ram breeders, have for the last century made high prices amongst home breeders at public Lettings and Sales. In 1896, two Shearling Rams were sold to English Breeders at 350 guineas each, and in 1897, four Shearling Rams were sold at more than £200 each, thus indicating that there has been no lack of spirit shown amongst the breeders in their aim to keep up and improve the good reputation which Lincoln sheep have held in so many markets of the world.

The principal object of the breeders of Lincoln Long-wool Sheep, in establishing this "Flock Book," and in introducing a system of ear-marking, by which each flock may be known and distinguished, is to give to the Home, Colonial, and Foreign buyers a guarantee that they can, without doubt or hesitation, at any time, make what selection they choose, with the certainty of getting what is represented by the entries contained in this volume.

A typical Lincoln Ram is a big sheep with a handsome masculine head; large ears, marked with blue spots; head well covered with wool; wide sprung ribs and shoulders, with a back of thick firm handling mutton. He must have a good leg, and neck of mutton, and must stand wide and square on his legs, and have plenty of bone. His fleece must be very weighty, of fine quality curly lustre wool, and the wool all over must be of the same description. The belly, breast, and hocks, must be completely covered, and particularly the thigh wool must be fine and curly, and not straight and coarse. The Ram must have his shoulders set well back, and have a free gay carriage.

A great public sale is annually held at Lincoln in the first week of September.

*Secretary, STEPHEN UPTON,  
St. Benedict's Square, Lincoln.*

## OXFORD DOWN.

*By the Secretary.*

†T WAS about the commencement of the "Victorian Era" that certain skilful and far-seeing sheep-breeders undertook the formation of a breed which should combine 'the weight of the long wool with the quality of the Down.' This was produced by a cross between the Cheviot Ram and the Hampshire or Southdown Ewe.

For some time after its establishment the new breed went by various names. That most in vogue for several years was the term "Down-Cotswolds." It was about the year 1857, at a meeting of breeders held in Oxford, that the title of 'Oxfordshire Downs'—since shortened to Oxford Downs—was adopted.

Mr. CLARE SEWELL READ, in his Report on the 'Farming of Oxfordshire,' published in the Royal Agricultural Society's Journal, in 1854, refers to the Oxford Downs as 'the glory of the county—the most profitable sheep to the producer, the butcher, and the consumer.'



TYPICAL OXFORD DOWN RAM.

The first Oxford Down Ram to appear in a Royal Show-yard was at the Windsor Meeting of 1851. At Warwick, in 1859, they mustered no less than 37 entries. In 1862, they were promoted by the Royal Society to the possession of distinct classes in the prize list, for which there were 62 entries. In the same year the Smithfield Club followed the example of the Royal, and gave separate prizes to the Oxford Downs. For 12 years—1862-73—the Club offered a Silver Cup for the Best Pen of Wethers in the Show, either Oxford Downs, Shropshires, or Cross-breds. This was won five times by the Oxford Downs, once by the Shropshires, and six times by cross-bred sheep of various descriptions.

The progress of the breed outside the show-yard can scarcely be here touched upon. The most cursory reference to their past would, however, be incomplete without an allusion to the wonderful ram '*Freeland*,' whose impress upon the fashionable flocks is said to be still marked, and whose name may certainly be found at the head of the pedigree of many of the sheep which now command the highest prices in the sale-ring. Bred at Fyfield, by Mr. A. F. Milton Druce, and let for the season of 1875 to Mr. John Treadwell, for the sum of 50 guineas, he was afterwards hired by Mr. T. S. Cooper, of Linden Grove, for the sum of 85 guineas, and never returned to this country.

In August, 1888, the Oxford Down Sheep Breeders' Association was established, and published its first Flock Book in the following year, though an Oxford Down Record had existed in America since the year 1881.

The following description of a good Oxford Down Ram is taken from the Flock Book:—

"He has a bold masculine head, well set on a strong neck; the poll is well covered with wool and adorned by a top-knot; the ears are self-coloured and of good length; the face is an uniform dark-brown colour; the legs are short, dark-coloured (not spotted), and placed well outside him; the barrel is deep, thick, and long, with straight underline; the chest wide; the back level; ribs well sprung; tail broad and well set on; the mutton is firm, lean, and of excellent quality; the fleece is heavy and thick on the skin.

"As good wine needs no bush, so Oxford Down sheep need little recommendation to practical farmers. Alike on arable and grass lands they are at home. For crossing purposes an Oxford Down Ram can scarcely come amiss. He will give size and weight to short-wools, and quality and good mutton to long wools, without, in either case, impairing the original good qualities of the flock. In these days, when 'better meat and more of it' must be the watchword of the breeder, Oxford Downs are bound to play a prominent part."

Within the past decade the breed has made steady progress, both at home and abroad. It has been much in request for many years for crossing with the Merino in Germany and other parts of the Continent, and the breeders in Argentina and elsewhere are beginning to recognise its good qualities in this respect.

*Secretary, R. HENRY REW,  
Hon. Sec. National Sheep Breeders' Association,  
Broad Sanctuary Chambers,  
Westminster, London, S.W.*



## ROMNEY MARSH.

*By ARTHUR FINN.*

**B**RED on bleak and exposed marshes, and generally grazed upon short and poor feed in its first year, the Romney Marsh sheep are essentially a survival of the fittest. Of a hardy and strong constitution, they will live and thrive even upon the poorest lands without any artificial feeding or assistance. Nevertheless, upon the best pasture, or when aided by extra feeding, there is no breed which more readily responds, owing to its natural kindliness and quick-fattening disposition.

Although no sheep can be said to stand sound against attacks of liver fluke (or rot), throat worm, or foot rot, under favourable conditions for the development of these diseases, the Romney Marsh sheep will be the last to succumb, and are the most likely to withstand them.

The typical sheep of this breed is thus described in the "Flock Book" of the Society:—

"Head wide, level between ears, with good thick foretop, no horns, nor dark hair on the pole, which should be well covered with wool; eyes should be large, bright, and prominent; face in ewes, full, and in rams, broad and masculine in appearance; nose in all cases must be coal black; neck should be well set in at shoulders, and strong and thick, and not too long; shoulders wide, well put in, and level with the back; chest wide and deep; back straight, with wide and flat loin; rump wide, long, and well-turned; tail set in almost level to the chine; thighs well let down and developed; the fleece should be of even texture, and of a good decided staple from foretop on the head to end of tail. Every effort should be made to reduce the quantity of breech wool. The skin should be of a clean pink colour; the face and legs white with few black spots."

Sheep of this breed are held in much esteem by the butcher, and neat weights commonly make as high a price per stone as the best quality Downs.

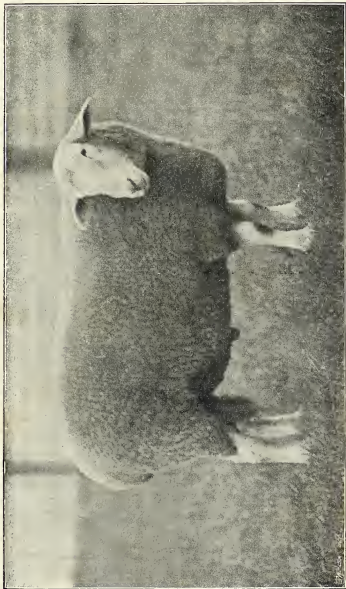
The wethers, early matured, *i.e.*, fattened as tegs, usually scale from 70 lbs. to 88 lbs. per carcass, while, if grazed until 2 years old, they will dress up to 104 lbs., or even more. Lambs (not artificially fed,) are sold off the marshes fat, at up to 40 lbs. Ram tegs will weigh up to 160 lbs.

The wool is heavy, with a long, full, and decided staple.

The writer's experience of the weight of wool of a purely grazing flock, including tegs, breeding ewes, and fat sheep, is an average of 7½ lbs. per head, the wool being washed on the sheep.

Romney Marsh sheep are well adapted to cross with all others, as they give to their progeny the peculiarly hardy and kindly characteristics for which they are celebrated.

The principal sales of ewes of this breed are at Romney Fair, in the Marsh, on August 21st, and also shortly after that date at Ham Street, and Ashford, Kent. The ram sales take place annually at Ashford, in October; there are also sales at Rochester, in Kent; and Rye, in Sussex.



*Photo by Wm. Chapin & Nephews.*

**ROMNEY MARSH RAM.**

First Prize, Royal Show, Manchester, 1897. Bred by G. W. FENN.

Special protection is given to purchasers, as to the value and identity of any sheep, by the regulations of the Society, which require that every animal for export shall be tattooed and the mark registered, so that it can be traced in any part of the globe.

*Secretary, W. W. CHAPMAN,  
Fitzalan House,  
Arundel St., Strand,  
London, W.C.*

## ROSCOMMON.

**T**HIS may be called the National sheep of Ireland. It is of great antiquity. In the early part of the century it was largely improved by a cross with the Leicester, from which many of their excellent qualities were derived.

The Roscommon is supreme throughout the great tract of rich grass land in Central Ireland. It requires no artificial feeding and is quite hardy, and produces a magnificent carcase.

These sheep come to enormous weight, the 2nd Prize Ram at Dublin Show, in August last, scaled 31 st., 11 lbs., while a Ram Lamb scaled 14 st., and 3 Hogget Wethers at Dublin Winter Show, fed on grass only, dressed 161½ lbs. each, beating all others in the block test. The flavour and quality of their mutton is excellent, and said to be better mixed with lean meat than any other known breed.



**ROSCOMMON RAM.**

Bred by **MATHEW FLANAGAN.**

The great mart for selling Roscommon Stud Rams is Ballinasloe Fair, held on the first Tuesday in October each year, where some of them often realize fancy prices, (£25 each,) while the average price this season was from £8 to £10.

The "points" are as follows:—

HEAD ...	...	Hornless face, white and long, muzzle strong in rams, moderately fine in ewes; ears of medium length, white or pinky, and fine in texture; head gaily carried.
NECK ...	...	Of moderate length and well set. In rams stronger, with a real good crest.
SHOULDERS ...		Broad oblique, and well set in flesh, fore and aft, and to be level with back.
CHEST ...		Deep and wide.
BACK AND LOIN		Long, level, and well covered with meat and muscle; loin to be broad and not too long, with tail broad and well set in.
RIBS ...	...	To be long, well sprung with a full flank.
LEGS AND FEET		Straight and white with flat bone, woolled to the knees, and hocks, clean below; fore legs set well apart, hind legs well filled with mutton.
FLEECE ...		Long, heavy, with staple broad white, and of bright texture; hair or coarseness in the quarters, &c., to be condemned.
SKIN ...	...	Fine, soft, and of pink colour.

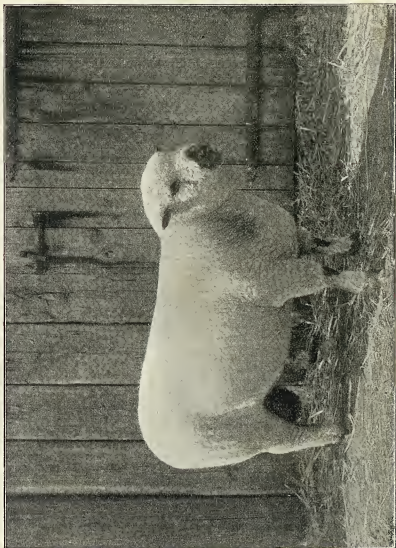
Hon. Secretary, *MATHEW FLANAGAN, J. P.,*  
*Tomona, Tulse,*  
*Co. Roscommon.*

## SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.

*By ALFRED MANSELL.*

THE SHROPSHIRE SHEEP is descended from a breed which has been known to exist in Shropshire and Staffordshire for upwards of a century. Whether or not, as some assert, South-downs or other rams have ever been introduced, it has been by developing the strongly inherited characteristics of the native breed of the district that all the best flocks have been built up, and not by the introduction of alien blood.

Shropshires may be seen flourishing not only in every county in England, Scotland, and Ireland, but throughout the United States, South America, Canada, the Colonies, and most Continental countries, the soil and surroundings differing to a great extent. This power which the breed possesses in a marked degree of acclimatising itself, probably accounts for the enormous strides it has made abroad in late years. No breed is more prolific, and with ordinary management, at



SHROPSHIRE RAM.

First Prize, Royal Show, Leicester. Bred by Mrs. BAKER.

least 50 per cent of doubles may be looked for; they are capital nurses, and frequently one sees one of a triplet take a leading position at the annual exhibitions. It carries a large proportion of lean meat to fat, is light in offal, and, with good management, comes to market at 10 to 12 months old, weighing 18 lbs. to 22 lbs. per quarter. Wethers at 18 to 20 months old frequently attain 40 lbs. per quarter, and ewes have been exhibited over 46 lbs. per quarter, their live weights being respectively 3 cwts. and 2 cwts. 3 qrs.

Experiments for the purpose of ascertaining with an equal or given quantity of food, the class of sheep best adapted to their locality, have placed the Shropshire ahead of all other breeds. They have a strong constitution, and will thrive and do well either on grass or arable land. The average clip for a fair Shropshire flock often averages 8 lbs., Ram Tegs cutting 16 to 18 lbs., and it usually commands the highest price of any English wool.

A Shropshire Ram should possess a well-developed head, with clear and striking expression of countenance; a muscular neck, well set on good shoulders; the body symmetrical and deep, placed as squarely as possible on short legs, due regard being paid to grandeur of style; a well-covered head; and wool of the best staple and most valuable kind, rejecting as much as possible all animals showing an inclination to produce black wool or dark skins; the skin should be a nice cherry colour, and the face and legs a nice soft black, not sooty, nor a rusty brown, and free from all white specks; the belly also should be well-wooled, and all inclination for the wool to peel at the jaw and legs should be avoided; good bone, and legs so placed as to support the frame with ease (*i.e.*, widely placed) are also essential points.

Shropshire Sheep Breeders were the first to recognise the value of a register or record of the breeding of each flock. The American registry of Shropshire sheep can claim to be the largest Live Stock Association in the world. Both South Australia, Southern Tasmania, and the Argentine Republic, have also established a Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association.

The valuable characteristics of the Shropshire are conveyed to the crosses in a remarkable degree.

The Shropshire-Merino Cross produces a deep, square-set sheep, well covered with a fine close fleece, which gives a high per centage of clean scoured wool, and commands a comparatively high price, whilst the sheep are hardy and fatten to nice handy weights at a very early age.

MR. ALEXANDER BRUCE, Chief Inspector of Live Stock for New South Wales, who visited England in 1894, for the special purpose of obtaining reliable information as to the London Market requirements in frozen mutton and lamb, places this cross first on the list of Merino cross-breeds, and he adds, "For the production of prime fat lambs there is *no Better Ram* (if there be as good) than the Shropshire, and the result is equally favourable where that Ram is put to cross-bred Ewes."

Average prices obtained in London for wool and mutton of prime fat wethers, 20 to 22 months old, got by English Rams, of the breeds given below, out of Merino Ewes:—

ENGLISH RAM.	MUTTON.			WOOL.			TOTAL.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Shropshire ... ..	1	0	2½	0	5	7½	1	5	9½
Lincoln ... ..	0	19	8½	0	6	0	1	5	8½
Border-Leicester ...	1	0	0	0	4	10	1	4	10
Romney Marsh ... ..	0	18	9	0	4	8	1	3	5
Southdown ... ..	1	0	0½	0	3	9	1	3	9½
Pure Merino ... ..	0	11	5½	0	3	9	0	15	2½
Shropshire Cross, wool and mutton	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	9½
Pure Merino " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	15	2½
Difference in favour of Shropshire Cross				...	...	...	£0	10	7½

The principal public sales of stud sheep are held at Birmingham, Shrewsbury, Lichfield, and Stafford, in the months of August and September, every year.

Secretaries, *ALFRED MANSELL & Co.,*  
College Hill,  
Shrewsbury.

## SOUTHDOWN.

**T**HIS is a typical sheep. It is unquestionably one of the purest and most valuable sheep in the kingdom, and its descent can be traced to a period antecedent to the Norman Conquest. It stands first amongst all the short-woolled English sheep, not only on account of the fineness and quality of the wool, but also of its fattening and meat giving character. These sheep have reached their present perfection by constant and unremitting attention to the purity of the original breed, and the careful weeding out of any sheep which showed any retrograde characteristics. Latterly they have been crossed to some extent with heavier woolled sheep, and this, along with improved farming, has tended to strengthen the character of the fibre. Nothing can show the sterling qualities of this breed better than the fact that, with the large influx of foreign fine wool into this country, the Southdowns have not only maintained their numbers, but actually increased.

From the "Flock Book" of the Society we get the following description:—

"In a good Southdown we look for a head wide and level between the ears, with no sign of slug or dark poll; eyes large, bright, and prominent; ears of medium size, covered with short wool; face full, not too long from eyes to nose, and of one even mouse colour, not approaching black nor speckled with white; under jaw, light; neck wide at base, strong and good; shoulders, well put in, the top level with the back; chest, wide and deep, 'thick through the heart'; fore flanks fully developed; ribs wide sprung and 'well ribbed up'; back level, with wide and flat loin, the whole covered with firm flesh; flanks,



**SOUTHDOWN RAM.**

First Prize, Royal Show, Manchester, 1897. Bred by THE EARL OF ELLSMERE, Stetchworth Park, Newmarket.  
I bred by Wm. Cooper & Nephews.



deep and full; rump, wide, long, and well turned; tail, large, and set on almost level with the chine; thighs, full, well let down, with deep wide twist, ensuring a good leg of mutton; legs, a mouse colour, and 'outside the body,' the whole of which should be covered with a fine, close and even fleece down to hocks and knees, and right up to the cheeks, with full foretop, but there should be no wool round the eyes or across the bridge of the nose. The skin should be of a delicate and bright pink, the carriage gentlemanly, and the walk that of a thoroughbred.

"The many excellencies of the Southdown—the hardy constitution, the adaptability to almost any climate, the habit of thriving on bare pasture, the generous return for good feeding, the comparative immunity from foot rot and less liability to 'fly' (from the density of its fleece), the general aptitude to improve other breeds by 'crossing,' the beauty of character, the fine quality of mutton and the excellence of its wool, only require to become known to be thoroughly appreciated by home and foreign flock owners."

Secretary, W. J. WICKISON,  
12, Hanover Square,  
London, W.

## SUFFOLK SHEEP.

*By the Secretary.*

THE "genesis" of the breed of Suffolk Sheep is clear and indisputable.

Early in the present century a breed of Suffolk Sheep existed, which had been founded by crossing the original *horned* Norfolk ewes with improved Southdown rams. The mingling of the form and fattening properties of the Southdown with the hardy, pure-blooded, and highly-bred Norfolk resulted in a valuable type of animal. In the progeny, the purer blood of the Norfolks asserted itself in the characteristic *black faces and legs*, and the objectionable feature—the horns—was eliminated by selection in the course of a few years.

By the middle of the century these Southdown-Norfolks were widely known as "Black-faces," and, in 1859, were christened "Suffolks." They are black-faced and hornless, with clean black legs, closely resembling the Southdown in character and wool, but about 30 per cent larger and proportionately longer on the leg. They excel in the following points:—

**FECUNDITY** ... Thirty lambs reared per score of ewes is a frequent average.

The returns made annually since 1887 by owners of Registered Suffolk Flocks show the number of lambs reared to June 1st, in each year to average 132·25 per hundred ewes.

**EARLY MATURITY** If well grazed they are fit for the butcher at nine to twelve months old, and the ram lambs are so forward at seven to eight months that 19 breeders out of 20 use them in preference to older sheep.



**SUFFOLK SHEARLING RAM.**

First Prize, Royal Show, Manchester, 1897. Bred by THE EARL OF ELLENBERG.

HARDIHOOD ...	They will get a living and thrive where other breeds would starve.
MUTTON ...	The quality is super-excellent, with an exceptionally large proportion of lean meat, and commands a ready sale at top prices.
CONSTITUTION	Robust, hardy, great power of endurance, and comparative freedom from attacks of "foot-rot."

In South America and other countries, crossing with Suffolk Rams has proved particularly well adapted for improving the mutton quality of the native-bred Merinos.

An interesting experiment was carried out in 1894-96 by the Colonial College, at Hollesley Bay, a few aged Merino ewes being mated to a Suffolk Ram. The resulting average produce was fully a lamb and a half per ewe, and slaughtered at 15 months, live weight of 94 lbs., and a "dressed carcase" of 54 lbs., or 60·64 per cent. washed fleece weighing 6·56 lbs., with good length of staple, and wool of fine texture. The flesh was of excellent quality, fine in grain and of good flavour, with a large proportion of lean meat. Their active movements, good carriage, high courage, and intelligent heads, give ample evidence of breeding, stamina, and constitution; while the deep roomy frame of the ewes shows the possession of one of the most essential qualifications for prolific breeding flocks.

The Suffolk Sheep Society was established in the spring of 1886, and for the better identification of Registered Sheep, and for the protection of purchasers, it was decided in 1890 to register a special mark under the Trade Marks' Act, and to give to each Registered Flock a distinctive number. All Flocks are inspected prior to first registration, and all Registered Flocks are re-inspected every fourth year.

The chief Annual Sales of stud rams take place in August, at Ipswich and Newmarket.

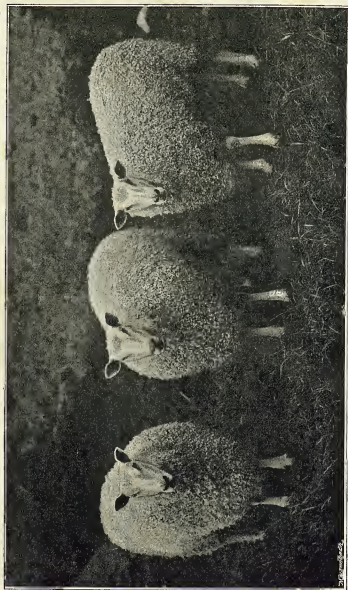
*Secretary, ERNEST PRENTICE,  
64, Orford Street,  
Ipswich.*

## WENSLEYDALE BLUE-FACE.

*By R. BURRA, President for 1896.*

THIS breed, though possessing a common origin with, and some of the best qualities of the Lincoln, is of a very different type. Bred in the remote Dales of Yorkshire, much care has been given to maintain the purity of the breed, and to improve it by careful selection. They are a branch of the old Teeswater Sheep, from the banks of the Tees, and from which ancient breed, the Lincoln Sheep is also said to be descended.

It soon attained great favour for crossing with Black-faced Scotch Sheep, and its reputation for that purpose extended far across the border. Of remarkable hardihood, activity, and courage, it was found peculiarly adapted for standing the inclement weather of the North, and the rough ground of the hill sides, and of maintaining its



THREE WENSLEYDALE BLUE-FACED SHEARLING EWES

condition under hard circumstances. They were much improved by the judicious introduction of high-class Leicester blood half-a-century ago, and now combine the hardiness, the activity, and the bold carriage, and the lean flesh, of the Teeswater, with the symmetry, and early maturity of the improved Leicester, easily distinguishable by the beautiful tinge of deep blue colour over the face and ears.

The "Flock Book" was established in the year 1890, and flocks of all new members are inspected prior to their enrolment.

The following "points" of the breed are taken from the "Flock Book":—


"The wool is bright and lustrous, of a flat staple of medium breadth and good length, each staple curled or pirlled out to the end; the head is broad at the muzzle, and wide below the ears, the head and the ears of a deep blue tinge, which extends to the rest of the body; the neck of good length, strong, and rising gracefully from the shoulders; the ribs well sprung and deep, great length of side, loins broad, and well covered with firm flesh along the back; hind quarters, square, and nicely packed; tail, broad; legs with plenty of bone, with freedom from coarse hair, straight set on at each corner, and well apart."

Lambs 6 months old can be fed up to a live weight of 13 stone, and shearlings up to 24 stone; while odd sheep have been known to clip 20 lbs., and shearlings often clip 15 or 16 lbs. of wool.

The rams are excellently adapted for crossing with Merino and other breeds.

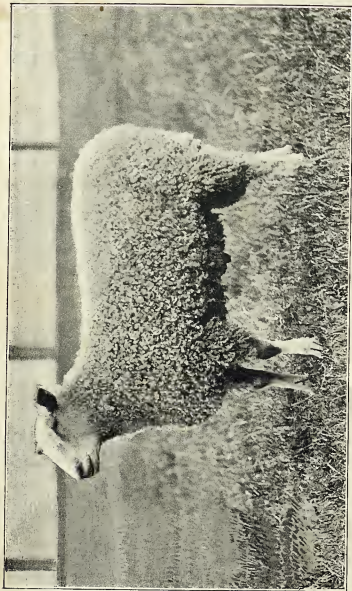
*Hon. Sec. W. RHODES,  
Lundholme, Westhouse,  
Nr. Kirkby Lonsdale.*

## WENSLEYDALE LONG-WOOL.

 HIS is descended from a branch of the old Teesdale Sheep. They are largely used for crossing with ewes in high or exposed situations, producing a splendid carcase.

The "points" are as follows:—

HEAD ...	Face dark; ears dark and well set on; head broad and flat between ears; muzzle strong in rams; a tuft of wool on forehead; eyes bright and full; head gaily carried.
NECK ...	Moderate length, strong, and well set on to the shoulders.
SHOULDER ...	Broad and oblique.
CHEST ...	Deep and wide.
WOOL ...	Bright lustre, curled all over body, all alike in staple.
BACK AND LOINS	Ribs well sprung and deep; loin broad and covered with meat, tail broad; flank full.



**WENSLEYDALE RAM.**  
First Prize, Royal Show, Manchester, 1897. Bred by the Exors. of the late T. Willis.

LEGS AND FEET    Straight and a little fine wool below the hock; fore legs well set apart; hind legs well filled with mutton.

SKIN    ...    Blue, fine, and soft.

The Wensleydales are good breeders, good feeders, excellent mothers, and frequently give 70 to 80 per cent of twins.

The Society holds an Annual Sale in September.

*Hon. Sec. T. J. OTHER,*  
*Howgrave,*  
*Wath, S.O., Yorks.*

## FAT SHOW SHEEP.

The following table gives the weights of the various first prize sheep and lambs at the Annual Smithfield Fat Stock Show in December, 1897:—

	Pen of three fat Wethers above 12 and under 24 months old.			Pen of three fat Wether lambs under 12 months old.		
	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
COTSWOLDS ...	8	2	8	5	2	8
DEVON } LONG-WOOLS }	7	2	10	5	1	20
DORSET ...	7	2	8	5	1	6
HAMPSHIRE	7	1	17	5	3	14
LEICESTERS ...	7	1	25	4	0	26
LINCOLNS ...	9	3	6	5	3	18
OXFORDSHIRE	7	2	14	5	1	24
ROMNEY MARSH	7	1	17	4	2	9
SHROPSHIRE	6	3	26	4	2	13
SOUTHDOWNS	5	3	5	3	3	15
SUFFOLKS ...	7	1	12	5	2	4

Pen of three fat Wethers  
of any age.

CHEVIOTS 19 mths. 2 wks. 5    3    26

Pen of three Crossbred  
Fat Wether sheep above  
12 and under 24 months old.

Pen of three Crossbred  
Fat Wether lambs.

CROSS-BRED }  
SHEEP    ...    8    0    20    6    2    22

*All from Oxfordshire Rams and Hampshire Ewes.*

## CROSS-BREEDING.

**C**OWING no doubt to a variety of causes, including the improvement of existing breeds and the evolution of others, cross-breeding in sheep has been extensively practised in Great Britain from time immemorial, in some cases because the farm, from the nature of the soil and climate, was not suitable for a breeding flock, in others because keen far-seeing men had made the production of early maturing fat lambs one of the chief sources of farm revenue. By cross-breeding they were enabled to considerably increase their annual output, lambing a greater number of ewes than is the case with a pure bred flock. In not a few instances, also, the robustness and vigour, and immunity from disease that first crosses enjoy, and the size and lean flesh developed when finished as yearlings, enabled them to counteract the unhealthy character for lambs of certain farms in the autumn months.

The British farmer has thus obtained splendid results by crossing the several breeds of slow-maturing hill bred ewes with short and long-woolled rams, among which may be mentioned the Border Leicester and Cheviot cross; the Wensleydale and Black-faced; the Shropshire and Clun; and the Welsh ewe, crossed with the Leicester or one of the Down breeds.

The crossed lambs and yearlings exhibited at the London and other Fat Stock Shows, speak eloquently as to the growth and early maturity of cross-breds, the daily gain recorded on the weighbridge being eminently satisfactory from a feeder's point of view.

Equally profitable animals are secured with crossing cattle, and this should in some measure reassure those sheepmen who are dubious as to the wisdom of moving in the direction indicated.

In putting these facts before the public we would wish to guard against the idea that we are advocating the general adoption of cross-breeding. On the contrary, we do not adopt it even in Britain, except in those special cases where the nature of the farm renders the keeping of a breeding flock impracticable; or where a farmer can thereby see his way to make the production of early fat lambs or feeding sheep more profitable than a pure-bred flock.



One great advantage with a flying flock is that a farmer can make several crossing experiments simultaneously, and so ascertain for himself which particular cross gives him the best results in his locality, either as fat lambs or as yearlings. It is an admitted fact, that in the improvement of live stock, some breeds do not answer as well as others, and it does not follow that what gives a good farmer's sheep say in the South of England, will do equally well on the Yorkshire Wolds. The only sure evidence that one breed will effect improvement when crossed with another pure breed, or a cross of that breed, is that obtained by actual demonstration; and it is in learning what class of sheep is best suited to a particular farm that there is room for so much thoughtful observation and study.

The great question for sheepmen abroad, is, how to obtain the largest monetary returns from their flocks; and so far, the practical experiments of sheepmen, and the opinion of experts who have studied the question in all its bearings, point to a dual production of wool and mutton; for a fine fleece with a carcase which can be readily converted into choice mutton, will ever leave a balance on the right side of the ledger.

To improve the mutton qualities of the Merino, cross-breeding with British rams must be resorted to, special care being taken to secure at the same time uniformity in the wool as regards fineness and staple.

The breeder should at the outset decide on a definite and well understood object, and not embark on the business with indiscriminate and indefinite crossing, because to achieve success attention to the minutest details is absolutely essential.

Briefly stated the advantages of cross-breeding are as follows:—

*Vigour and immunity from disease.* Ample evidence from all parts of the Globe proves the natural hardihood of cross-breeds—more especially first crosses, their vigorous digestion, their freedom from disease, especially lungworms and liver fluke, as compared with the *Merino* under similar conditions.

*Early maturity and suitability for poor land.* Sheepmen of great experience testify to the rapid manner in which cross-breeds fatten, and to the fact that even on poor land they are good thrivers and are not so dainty as the *Merino*.

*Not given to roaming and good travellers.* They also travel better than the Merino, and the further fact, that as a rule, they are contented and placid, and not given to roaming about, no doubt to some extent explains their early maturing propensities.

All experts, and those who are intimately connected with the Frozen Meat Trade concur in the opinion that exporting Merino mutton is a mistake, and that only prime cross-breds will pay to ship to England.

*Class of mutton most in request.* The replies recently obtained from a few of the largest firms in the business, as to the most saleable frozen mutton on the London market at the present day, are as follows:—

- A. "New Zealand Cross-breds, with short plump legs, on a sheep that matures well at 56 to 58 lbs. dead weight."  
 B. "New Zealand (Canterbury) Cross-breds.

Prices ruling for this class, Dec., 1897.

Grade a—48 to 56 lbs. dead weight, 3½d. per lb.

" b—56 to 64 " " 3¼d. " "

" c—64 to 72 " " 3d. " "

Grade a it will be noticed is the favorite weight, although prices naturally depend upon supply and demand. It frequently happens that there are more heavy than light sheep, but generally the reverse is the case."

C.—"New Zealand (Canterbury) Mutton 50 to 60 lbs. dead weight."

D.—"New Zealand (Canterbury) Mutton 50 to 60 lbs. dead weight."

E.—"New Zealand (Canterbury) Mutton 52 to 58 lbs. dead weight."

F.—"Short-woolled Cross-breds 64 to 72 lbs. dead weight."

From the above it is evident that New Zealand (Canterbury) mutton takes rank above all others as regards quality and the price realised on the London market, and it is certainly interesting and instructive to trace the main reasons which have contributed to make this special brand acceptable to the public taste. Picked Merino ewes from New South Wales, formed the foundation of these flocks; upon them different breeds of British rams have always been used for the freezers. In the North of the same island cull Merino ewes were bought for a start, and in consequence, an inferior sheep is exported, usually making ½d. per lb. less than the Canterbury mutton,

or a difference of 2s. 2d. on a 52 lb. carcase. A very little reference to the multiplication table will suffice to shew the enormous difference to the farmer, year after year, which is involved in such a state of things.

This points to the wisdom of forming the flock with good ewes, even if the initial cost is a little more, as in these days of severe competition, the extra quality of any article is less depreciated in price by a glut than the inferior qualities.

No doubt in ordinary Merino flocks the weight of the fleece is materially increased with the Long-wool cross. In one instance, to our knowledge, an average of 3.3 lbs. of wool per sheep, for an entire flock, was increased by the first cross to 4.4 lbs., and by the second cross to 4.6 lbs. The first and second cross give the best wool, which makes a good price. The staple in these two crosses is longer than the Merino, but retains its softness. Subsequent crosses add to the weight and length of the fleece but it loses in fineness. The mutton with the first cross of the Long-wool increases rapidly in weight. Each succeeding cross loses flavour and gains in weight.

Crossing with the Down breeds makes a marked improvement on the carcase, which shows more of the mutton type as compared with the Merino. The back is straighter and wider, and the ribs more rounded, and the body generally carries more flesh. In the second and subsequent crosses the plumpness of the thigh is noticeable, and the mutton generally is considerably improved.

So far as the wool is concerned, the most striking feature in the first cross with the best woolled sheep of the Down breeds, is the evenness and density of the fleece obtained; with no marked difference in the weight, and only a slight inferiority in quality to that of the Merino. In the second and subsequent crosses the fleece gains in weight and length, and to some extent loses its fineness and Merino character.

The consensus of opinion points to the wisdom of taking *one cross* only, and that with pure bred rams. With proper care in the selection of suitable sires with good fleeces, and the other necessary qualities, the breeder secures the hardy, early maturing sheep, a distinct improvement on its parents, and covered with an uniform

class of fine even wool, which of late years has been much sought after. In the second cross uniformity is not so easy to secure, and the result is rarely satisfactory; and should a further cross be decided on, it is really better to take another pure breed and so infuse two-thirds of British blood on the Merino foundation. For example—first, cross Long-wool ram on the Merino ewe; second, cross Short-wool ram on Long-wool Merino ewe. Several of the most successful men in New Zealand and Australia adopt this plan with excellent results. Excellent early maturing lambs of about 37 to 39 lbs. are obtained from this cross; and with due care in the selection of rams a fleece of good weight results, which makes considerably more than the coarse cross-bred wool.

Grade rams should never be used for crossing, as experience has proved that it is only in very exceptional cases that cross-bred sires can transmit their own good qualities to their offspring; while their bad points are only too pronounced.

The fact that the good or bad features of any cross are so deeply marked in the offspring, explains the necessity of obtaining well bred rams, all of similar class of fine even wool. It is only thus the breeder can reasonably look for a clip of wool of the same class and staple. Carelessness in this direction would produce disastrous results, and no two fleeces in the clip would be of a similar character. A consignment of wool of a heterogeneous character as regards quality and staple, is always difficult to sell.

In selecting sires it must be always remembered that antiquity of breeding can be easily over-estimated, and that what is of more importance is "excellence of breeding."

Crossing the Merino ram on British ewes can in no way be recommended, as the conformation of the progeny usually follows the sire, which in this case shews narrowness of chest development, flat ribs, and lack of width and depth. This cannot be regarded as an ideal type to breed to.

In essaying a first trial with crossing, the Merino breeder should use some of his aged ewes, and cross them with such British rams as he decides upon. By this means he has a chance of seeing how the venture succeeds before dipping too largely into the business;

and experience would seem to point to the desirability of selecting small-headed rams for this purpose, parturition being much easier than where large coarse-headed rams have been used.

Our enquiries have produced the following views from New Zealand Breeders as to the effects of certain crosses with *English Rams*.—

*Lincoln and Merino Cross.* Specially suitable for rich, sound, well-watered pasture, where feed is abundant and nutritious, and gives a good return in wool and mutton.

*Border Leicester and Merino Cross.* On rich pasture or other nutritious food gives nearly as large a return in weight of mutton as the Lincoln cross, and of a better quality and form. The weak point is the comparative lightness of fleece and lack of covering on the belly and legs. They are, however, very hardy and thrive on middling land.

*English Leicester and Merino Cross.* These crosses on really good pasture make perhaps better progress than any other, but the mutton, even when young, is not of first class quality, and brings a second rate price. The fleece is heavy for the size of the sheep, and of fair quality.

*Romney Marsh and Merino Cross.* On rich land these crosses do nearly as well as the Lincoln and quite as well as the Border Leicester, so far as increase of weight is considered. The carcase is not so shapely as the Border Leicester cross, but mutton nearly as good. The wool of this cross is comparatively dense and good quality.

*Southdown and Merino Cross.* The quality and flavour of the mutton is very high, but the fleece is light and rather inferior in quality.

*Shropshire and Merino Cross.* This makes an excellent hatcher's sheep, as the carcase is short, compact, broad on the back and loin, round on the shoulder and deep fleshed, whilst the mutton is of prime quality and flavour. Specially adapted for breeding fat lambs coming early to maturity, making fair weights and superior as regards quality and appearance. In the wool this cross has the failings of all Down breeds.

*Hampshire and Merino Cross.* These crosses have the advantage of larger size, shapely carcase and good mutton, but the fleece is poor as regards quality and weight.

NOTE.—It is only right to notice that all the Down breeds are noted for a large percentage of lambs. Speaking generally, it would appear that the Long-wools are more adapted to the rich Lowlands, and that in higher ranges where the herbage is poorer, the various Down breeds would give better results.

### STATEMENT,

Shewing the views of breeders in New Zealand as to the relative values of the different English sheep for crossing.

THE BREED OF SHEEP.	Aptitude to fatten.	Hardness and Soundness.		Lambing and Increase.	Form and Shapes.	The Mutton.		
		Constitution.	On feet.			Appearance.	Quality.	Weight.
Maximum Points ...	7	8	5	6	12	3	7	6
The Lincoln ... ..	6	4	3	4	11	2	5	6
" Border Leicester ... ..	7	6	4	5	12	2	6	4
" English Leicester ... ..	7	5	3	5	10	1	4	3
" Romney Marsh ... ..	5	7	5	6	11	2	5	4
" Shropshire Down ... ..	6	6	3	6	12	3	7	3
" Southdown ... ..	6	5	3	5	12	3	7	2
" Hampshire Down ... ..	6	5	3	5	11	2	6	6

We have spoken largely of New Zealand because here the crossing of sheep for freezers has achieved the best results. In seeking for guidance, one naturally turns to the highest authority available. It does not follow at all that in other countries the same crosses would produce the same results. This is a matter for experiment, but we think the facts and figures we have given, will afford general guidance, and there are certain principles, such as the selection of good stock, which apply everywhere.

## ADDITIONAL NOTES ON WOOL.

The breeder should endeavour, as much as possible, to keep abreast of the times and study the demands of the wool manufacturer, who of course, to a large extent, is swayed by the changes in the fashion of dress. Messrs. C. Balme & Co., the London Wool Brokers, under date of Dec. 15th, 1897, write as follows:—

"For some time past fashion has favoured bright goods made from coarse-haired wool, and hence the prices for cross-bred staple have, in spite of their increasing quantity, been subject to less marked variations than those for Merino. It is quite possible, and indeed we are inclined to think very probable, that fashion will swing to the opposite extreme and favour the soft clinging materials (Cashmeres), thus creating a largely increased demand for Merino staple. Should this change come about, the large increase in the production of cross-bred wool, which has of late years been witnessed, both in Australasia and the River Plate, cannot fail to have a considerable effect on the prices for that article; while the Merino, which has in many quarters been displaced by the coarse growths, will correspondingly benefit. Of course, in this change, the finer cross-breeds would to some extent follow the fortune of the Merino."

Of late years, both in Australasia and the River Plate, good cross-bred wool has sold well and exceeded the price of pure Merino; but in the latter country, (the River Plate,) this season there is an enormous quantity of coarse cross-bred wool, no two fleeces of which are alike, the result of flock-masters using grade rams in their flocks (with fleeces widely differing in character and staple,) instead of pure bred rams selected with special care as to wool.

"So glutted is the Buenos Aires Market, (Nov. 1897,) with this description of nondescript cross-bred wool, especially the coarser classes, that it is absolutely unsaleable." This proves the folly of breeding at hazard, and the necessity of adhering to pure blood on the sire's side.

Many men well qualified to give an opinion, state that most Merino wools lack length, and that some are deficient in strength; and that with judicious crossing the wool crop will pass from the delaine to the combing class, and remain of a ready saleable character. Even the finest wool suffers in demand unless it has length and strength.

So far as present market reports go, good cross-bred wool makes as high, and in several cases a higher price, than Merino wool, and is quite as much in demand. This is borne out by the result of the Christchurch (New Zealand) Wool Sales, the Buenos Aires Wool Sales, and by the evidence of such an eminently practical man as Mr. Alexander Bruce, Chief Inspector of Live Stock for New South Wales.

As is the case with the carcase, at any rate with the largest of the British breeds of sheep, the first cross in wool is the best.

### GENERAL REMARKS.

That owners of Merino flocks should convert the whole into cross-breds, would, we think, be hardly a wise course to pursue; because after a few crosses had been taken, too much size would probably be one result, while the Merino-like character of the wool would be lost.

Probably, the better plan would be to maintain a pure Merino flock on the badly watered and more sterile portions of the Estate; and cross the annual draft from the Merino flock with pure bred rams; placing the cross-breds on the lands best adapted for their superior early fattening propensities.

This is a plan already practised to some extent by leading Estancieros in South America, who rear large flocks in Uruguay, and remove them when approaching maturity to richer camps in Buenos Aires, where they are fattened previous to being sold for export.

That the markets will, from time to time, favour one class of wool to the detriment of others will ever be the case; and therefore it is manifestly unwise on the part of the breeder to depend on wool alone for his annual income, because should the particular class of wool he raises not be selling at remunerative prices, the farm returns would be seriously curtailed, and before the breeder could rectify his mistake and change the character of his wool, the public might be wanting some other class of wool, and he would for ever be following in the wake, instead of leading the van.

All writers of experience concur in the opinion that cross-breeding has answered very well under proper conditions. The chief of these are a never failing water supply; land of such a nature as to give



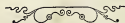
a full supply of cultivated or natural grasses that will readily fatten cross-breds; or failing this, that when cultivated, will grow root crops, lucerne, and other suitable foods for producing fat lambs and sheep intended for export.

Land that burns greatly, with its consequent failure of proper food, is not so suitable for the purpose of cross-breeding as where the food supply is of a more certain character. To obtain the highest quality in lamb or mutton the fattening process must suffer no check. Good and adequate fences are also indispensable. In properly fenced enclosures (whether large or small), sheep are more disposed to settle down and mature.

There can be no doubt that with so much competition from all parts of the world, the successful breeder will be the one who makes first class fat lambs or sheep at the earliest age; and it is probable that if the circumstances permit of it, this end will be best achieved by the giving for the last two months, say, of some cultivated food, such as lucerne, rape, sorghum, rye, or roots.

These cultivated lands might be adjacent to the head station and used as finishing grounds for the most forward conditioned sheep. By this means there would be less waste of food, and as sales were effected other stock would take their place.

One serious danger to guard against is Scab, and this with Long-wool cross-breds can only be dealt with by regular and systematic dipping at stated periods; and a keen eye and prompt treatment on the slightest outbreak of the disease. With a proper system of dipping, and attention at the first indications of disease, Scab is easy to eradicate, and the benefits will be seen in the healthy and thrifty appearance of the flock and the marked improvement in the quality and brightness of the fleece. An old adage says "A stitch in time saves nine," and in reference to this insidious disease it is particularly applicable.



## HINTS TO COLONIAL

AND

## FOREIGN BREEDERS.

THE first question for a sheepman desirous of raising Crossbreds to decide is, what particular cross is likely to give him the best results. We cannot too strongly emphasise that fact that it by no means follows that the cross which in one district has given the most satisfactory results will do equally well in other districts where the soil, herbage, or climate are of a different nature. For instance, Great Britain is a very small island, yet it contains upward of 20 distinct breeds of sheep, the majority of which are, undoubtedly, superior to the rest in their own locality, to which they have become fitted by a long process of natural selection.

On the chalky downs of Kent and Sussex no sheep could touch the pretty little Southdown, while on the rolling uplands of central England the Shropshire carries the sway. The Hampshire, Leicester, Lincoln, and Oxford, pay splendidly for folding, whilst on poor exposed limestone soils the hardy Cotswold, scattered thinly over the soil, will thrive without artificial feeding. For the mountain districts, nothing can take the place of the Blackfaced and Welsh, while in the rich pastures of central Ireland the fine Roscommon is very much of a monarch. The Romney Marsh and the Suffolk on the bleak exposed lowlands or the salt marshes, thriving and fattening where many a sheep would starve, and the Cheviot, as hard as nails, away in the cold northern hills—each in his place is supreme.

We will venture the opinion that abroad this question of the suitability of the various breeds and crossbreeds to soil and locality has not received one tenth the consideration it deserves. Too often a certain breed of sheep has been "boomed" in a particular market and every man has followed his neighbour.

We have made special endeavours to convey an accurate idea of the characteristics of the various British breed of sheep. Our Colonial and Foreign friends can now conduct their own experiments

with a view to ascertain for themselves the breed best suited for their purpose, taking soil and climate into consideration. If it is decided to make a trial with two or more distinct breeds, great care should be taken to place all the flocks under similar conditions as regards food and surroundings, and in every case the trials should be made simultaneously, and each breed should be represented with a similar class as regards quality. The difficulty which buyers have hitherto experienced in procuring reliable specimens of any particular breeds has militated against the development of crossbreeding. This is now a thing of the past, and if any sheepman is unable to get what he wants in any other way, the services of our Branch Houses are always freely at his disposal.

We are induced to give the following further suggestions in the hope that they may be of value:—

*Use only Pure Bred Sires*—success or failure depends upon adhering to this rule in its integrity. A ram from a well established flock will stamp its strain unerringly upon its offspring—an indifferently bred ram may be the source of great trouble and loss.

Never buy except from a registered flock.

Always get a Certificate of Pedigree.

Introduce new blood periodically. This is almost as important as to buy good rams. Study the characteristics we give of the breed, this will enable you to avoid rubbish.

In all cases buy through a trustworthy agent. The Flock Book Secretary, who has the credit of the breed at heart, is always a good man to go to for advice.

If your wool is of the first importance, use fine dense woolled rams, long in the staple—if meat, choose primarily a good carcase and thick flesh. If you want both, use a good sheep with plenty of fine wool. Only make up your mind what you really do want, and give very clear instructions to the buyer.

Sheep for shipment should be in good condition but not *unduly fat*.

## HINTS TO BRITISH

### RAM BREEDERS.

THERE are certain requirements which it is necessary to observe if you desire to develop a foreign trade in your stud sheep, and foremost of these—*your flock must be registered.*

Practically, all buyers require an export certificate with the sheep they purchase. This shuts out all but registered flocks.

The primary object of the breeder should be to produce a class of sheep that would sell readily at home; but, if at the same time, he desires to do an export trade, he should as much as possible keep the special requirements of the foreign buyer in view, and breed to that end, so far as it is compatible with the maintenance of the British standard. If you wish to achieve the highest results, aim at securing the best class of sheep. These always sell readily and at good prices, while the market is usually glutted with second and third rate animals, which bring neither credit nor profit to the breeder.

It is now pretty generally recognised abroad too, that the best blood is in the end the most remunerative; and sheepmen who go in for cross-breeding are generally prepared to pay the price. Inferior animals, therefore, are unremunerative to produce, and injuriously affect the reputation of the breed.

In building up a flock, you cannot hope to succeed unless you are prepared to devote to it unremitting care and attention. Even then some years must elapse before you can expect to stand in the front rank. In the first instance, you should select your rams and ewes from one or two well known flocks, and go for a settled type rather than make a miscellaneous collection from several breeders, no matter how good they may be.

A practical illustration of the importance of quality comes from the Argentine, where we hear of a rather large importation of inferior Shropshires. Our house says: "It is certainly a great pity that such

wretched animals should come here; but no one we fancy will dream for a moment he is getting a fair specimen of the breed in purchasing these; money will certainly be dropped upon this venture."

In Australia some of the flocks of British sheep bred in the Colony, are claimed to equal anything in Britain, although it is admitted that they need the introduction of fresh blood from England periodically. For this purpose it is obvious that nothing but the highest class of home-bred rams will find acceptance.

From our New Zealand House we have also a very emphatic warning as to the necessity for high quality rams. Even armed with this information, a good deal of judgment is necessary in selecting sheep for the foreign market. It does not follow that a ram which stood first at the Royal Show, is the sheep that is best adapted for breeding freezers. On this subject we give the following extracts from information collected by our Foreign Houses:—

UNITED STATES. "The Oxford Downs should be wide, blocky, thick-fleshed sheep; on short strong legs with straight tops; good style and action. These are the kind that are most sought for."

Speaking of Cheviots, the Secretary of the National Cheviot Sheep Society, suggests that, "the special improvement to be made in rams to be sent to the United States, is to increase the size by judicious feeding, so far as may be done without detracting from their hardihood; to straighten and broaden the back; to dock the tail as the manner of some is; and to breed pure white face and legs; and no horns."

The esteemed Secretary of the National Lincoln Sheep Breeders' Association, says: "The ideal Lincoln (in great demand) in America, is a sheep of large body, well set on medium length legs; with legs set well apart; neck, medium length; good muscle; well set on body; head covered with wool to the ears, with medium fore-top; eyes bright and expressive; ears fair length; fleece of even length, fine long lustrous wool, not less than eight inches in length for one year's growth. Such a sheep is in great demand here, and the demand is constantly growing. Our Association cannot supply the demand this season."

It is suggested by Mr. J. G. Springer that, "the Southdown Ram for the United States should have the whole body well covered with moderately long and coarse wool, white in color, carrying some yolk. Large coarse rams would not prove satisfactory. The mutton of the Southdown is very highly esteemed."

As to Shropshires, the Ram for crossing purposes should be a strong-boned, short-legged sheep, of moderate size, with a deep and wide chest, full legs of mutton, and strong dock (tail), with a straight spine, well covered with firm deep flesh; the fleece should be thick and dense, and as long in the staple as possible. These particulars will perhaps be of assistance in regard to other breeds.

In the Argentine, the type of ram most in demand is one of large size, with strong bone and dense long fleece.

In South Africa, where the demand for mutton is very much in advance of the supply, and the trade remunerative, it seems probable that a good mutton sheep will, in the near future, be deemed of greater importance than the wool.

There is little demand in any country for ewes, except in few cases where pure-bred British flocks are maintained.

Speaking generally, however, unless you know your foreign market, you should either find out Agents who buy and sell in England, or get into touch with a reliable Agent abroad.

The principal foreign demand is for yearling rams, though it is by no means uncommon for older animals to be selected. The proportion of young blood used, is much smaller than it is at home.



## DIRECTORY OF SHEEP-BREEDERS OWNING REGISTERED FLOCKS.

- \* Denotes holds a Home Sale.  
† „ Exhibitor at Royal Shows since 1893.  
‡ „ Prize-Winner at Royal Shows since 1893.  
§ „ Prize-Winner at Local Shows.  
( „ Prize-Winner Royal Dublin Society's Shows.

## CHEVIOT.

- § Fletcher, Dugald, Tarbert, Jura, N.B.  
§ † Robson, John, Newton, Bellingham.  
§ Robson, Thomas, Blindburn, Bellingham.  
§ Shiell, Robert, Sourhope, Kelso, N.B.

## COTSWOLD.

- § Bagnall, George & Son, Westwell, Burford, Oxon.  
Barton, Charles, Fyfield, Lechlade, Glos.  
Craddock, Ernest, Winson, Fairford.  
§ Elwes, Henry J., Colesborne Park, Andoversford, R.S.O., Glos.  
‡ Garne, R. & W. T., Aldsworth, Northleach.  
§ Gillett, Charles, Lower Haddon, Bampton, Oxon.  
Houlton, William, Broadfield, Northleach.  
‡ Hulbert, T. R., North Cerney, Cirencester.  
Porter, Thomas, Baunton, Cirencester.  
§ ‡ Swanwick, Russell, Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester.  
Wakefield, John P., Signett Hill, Burford.  
Walker, Thomas, Fulbrook, Burford.

## DEVON LONGWOOL.

- § Berry-Torr, Edward R., Westleigh House, Bideford, Devon.  
§ Brent, Wm., Clampit, Callington, Cornwall.  
§ Pedler, George T., Sutton, Cullompton, Devon.  
§ Radmore, Henry T., Court Barton, Thorveston, R.S.O.,  
Devon.  
§ Thomas, Wm. T., Fluxton, Ottery S. Marv.

## DORSET HORN.

- § Attrill, Leonard Cole, Bowcombe Farm, Carisbrooke, I.O.W.  
Bond, Frederick W., Whitelackington, Ilminster.
- ‡ Flower, W. R., West Stafford, Dorchester.
- § \* Hecks, S. J. & F. G., Weston Farm, Chard.
- ‡ McCalmont, H., M.P., Bishopswood, Ross, Herefordshire.  
Portman, The Hon. E. W. B., Hestercombe, Taunton.
- § Wyatt, Arthur, Purtington Farm, Winsham, Chard.

## HAMPSHIRE DOWN.

- § \* Allen, Stephen H., Eastover, Andover.  
Austin, R. Junr., Bishops Waltham.  
Bartlett, Thomas N., West Knighton, Dorchester.
- ‡ Baxendale, L. H., Greenham Lodge, Newbury.
- § Brown, John, Chilhampton, Salisbury.
- § \* Bruce, Lord, C. F. B., Wolfhall Manor House, Marlborough.
- ‡ Buxton, T. Fowell, Waters Place, Ware, Herts.
- § † Carlisle, Herbert Nield, Row End, Dunstable.
- ‡ Carnarvon, The Earl of, Highclere Castle, Newbury.
- ‡ Carter, J. Bonham, Adhurst St. Mary, Petersfield, Hants.
- § † \* Coles, Cary, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury.
- § Dalgety, Captain F. J., Lockerley Hall, Romsey, Hants.
- Date, G. T., Inglesbatch, Dunkerton, Bath.
- \* Dean, Joseph, Chitterne, Codford, Wilts.
- § East, Joshua, Longstock House, Stockbridge, Hants.
- § † \* Flower, James, Chilmark, Salisbury.  
Fowler, Joseph P., Shoddesden, Andover.
- § \* Gauntlett, W. B., Collingbourne, Marlborough, Wilts.
- § Goldsmith, James, Blendworth, Horndean.
- § † Hanbury, Basil, Kineton, Warwickshire.  
Hooley, Ernest T., Risley Hall, Derby.
- § Hulse, Sir Edward, Bart, Breamore House, Salisbury.
- § \* Judd, George, Cocum, Mitcheldever, Hants.  
Lavington, Thomas, Marlborough, Wilts.
- Meux, Sir H. Bruce, Bart., Overton, Marlborough, Wilts.
- § † \* de Mornay, Alfred, Col d'Arbres, Wallingford.
- Parham, James N., Sutton Veny, Warminster.
- Rawlence, James E., The Chantry, Wilton.
- Richards, H. & Son, Chilbridge, Wimborne, Dorset.
- Shaw-Stewart, W. R., Berwick House, Hindon, Salisbury.
- Simmons, P. & S., Oak House, Hampstead Norris.





## LINCOLN.

- § Adamson, Arthur, Low Mill, Keswick.  
 Addison, Matthew, Riby Grove, Stallingborough, Lincoln.  
 § Atkinson, Thomas, North Kelsey, Lincoln  
   Barker, Samuel, Newton, Nottingham.  
   Bateman, Rev. S., Yarburgh, Louth.  
   Bingham, W. H., Long Bennington, Grantham.  
   Brookes, Henry, Camblesforth Hall, Selby.  
 § Brooks, W. Jermyn, Boughton Grange, Northampton.  
   Bullivant, William, Cammeringham, Lincoln.  
   Cartmell, J. Frederic, Asfordby, Melton Mowbray.  
   Cartwright, E. H., Keddington Grange, Louth.  
   Cartwright, James, Dunston Pillar, Nocton, Lincoln.  
 § Casswell, J. E., Laughton, Folkingham.  
 § † Casswell, Tom, Pointon, Folkingham.  
 § Casswell, T. R. & H., Quadring, Spalding.  
   Chatterton, R. & R., Stenigot, Lincoln.  
 † Clarke, Charles, "Brookside," Scopwick, Lincoln.  
   Collins, J. Martyn, Tickencote, Stamford.  
   Cooke, J. W., Grange Farm, Kirton-in-Lindsey.  
 § \* Davy, Richard, Worlaby, Lincoln.  
   Davy, George Edward, Thoresway Manor, Caistor.  
   Dainty, J. W., Honington, Grantham.  
 § Dean, S. E. & J. M., Threckingham, Folkingham.  
 § † Dean, S. E. & Sons, Dowsby Hall, Folkingham.  
   Diggle, Thomas, Thorpe House, Ewerby, Sleaford.  
   Dodds, Henry, Miningsby House, Boston.  
   Drakes, Wm., Tealby, Market Rasen.  
 § † \* Dudding, Henry, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby.  
   Dudding, J. R., Greetwell Hall, Kirton-in-Lindsey.  
   Dunham, James, High Toynton, Horncastle.  
   Harvey, George Wing, Londonthorpe, Grantham.  
 † Hesseltine, W., Beaumont Cote, Barton-on-Humber.  
 § Hincks, Henry Thorpe, Wigston Hall, Leicester.  
 § Hirst, Appleyard, High Eggboro', Snaith, Yorks.  
 § Hodgins, Thomas L., Brookvale, Maryborough, Ireland.  
 § Hookham, C. F., Redbourne, Kirton-in-Lindsey.  
   Kirkham, J. R. & R. R., Biscathorpe, Lincoln.  
   Langdale, Geo., Lockington, Hull.  
   Mackinder, Harwood, Langton Grange, Spilsby.  
 † Millington, D. J., Sempringham House, Folkingham.  
   Minta, C., Normanton Heath, Grantham.  
   Mundy & Ward, South Ormsby, Alford.  
 § Pickup, Peter R., Darrington, Pontefract.  
   Pinder, Captain T. W., Little Casterton, Stamford.  
 § Poskitt, William Henry, Birkin, Ferrybridge, Yorks.  
 \* Robinson, William Henry, Asgarby House, Spilsby.

LINCOLN—*Continued.*

- \* Rudkin, J. & Sons, West Willoughby, Grantham.
- Scorer, W. & H. W., Burwell, Louth.
- ‡ Smith, Henry, Jun., Cropwell Butler, Nottingham.
- § Swallow, Joseph B., Horkstow Villa, Barton-on-Humber.
- Tong, W. C., The Moated House, Kirton-in-Lindsey.
- § Wainwright, Joseph, Buxton, Derbyshire.
- \* Ward, Frederick, Quarrington, Sleaford.
- ‡ Westrope, John, Morden Hall, Royston, Cambs.
- § Williams, Charles E., Sleaford.
- ‡ Wright, R. & W., Nocton Heath, Lincoln.
- Yarrad, Samuel, Swaton, Folkingham.
- Young, Mrs. M. E., Covenham Manor, Louth.

## OXFORD DOWN.

- § ‡ \* Adams, George, Royal Prize Farm, Wadley House, Faringdon, Berks.
- Ashwin, Bellwood, Honeybourne, Broadway, Worcestershire.
- ‡ Brassey, A., M.P., Heythrop Park, Chipping Norton.
- Bryan, John & Son, Southleigh, Witney.
- Case, James P., Binham Abbey, Wighton, R.S.O., Norfolk.
- Cooper, J. Bulford, White Hill, Tackley, Oxon.
- § Dickens, Robert, The Elms Farm, Newton Purcell, Buckingham.
- § ‡ \* Dodgson, S. D. Stanley, Hames Hall, Cockermouth.
- ‡ Eady, J. C., Irchester Grange, Wellingborough.
- ‡ Green, J. T., Hunton Bridge Farm, King's Langley.
- Hobbs, C. & Son, Maiseyhampton, Fairford.
- Hobbs, Robert W., Kelmscott, Lechlade.
- St. Aubyn, Hugh Molesworth, Clowance Barton, Camborne, Cornwall.
- § Smith, John Phipps, Abbot's Salford, near Evesham.
- § \* Staveley, J. A., Eastlands, Tibthorpe, Driffeld, East Yorks.
- ‡ Stilgoe, Hugh W., The Grounds, Adderbury, Oxon.
- § Street, George, Maulden, Ampthill, Beds.
- ‡ \* Treadwell, J. & S., Winchendon, Aylesbury.
- § Williams, J. G., Pendley Manor, Tring.
- Wilston, F. J., Manor Farm, Wootton, Woodstock.

## ROSCOMMON.

- § Acheson, George R., Rush Hill, Drumsna, Co. Roscommon.
- ( Banahan, Joseph, Renny, Tulsk, Co. Roscommon.
- Broderick, Michael, Castlereagh, Co. Roscommon.

ROSCOMMON—*Continued.*

- ( § Cotton, C. & J., Longford House, Castlereagh, Co. Roscommon.
- Dufficy, Mrs. Patt, Carrowgarra, Tusk, Co. Roscommon.
- ( \* Flanagan, Mathew, Tomona, Tusk, Co. Roscommon.
- ( Fitzmaurice, Patrick J., Elphin, Co. Roscommon.
- Higgins, Timothy, Cloonieffer, Mantua, Co. Roscommon.
- \* Kelly, Michael, Castlereagh, Co. Roscommon.
- Mitchell, Michael, Cloonfinlough, Strokestown, Co. Roscommon.
- Morriss, Patrick C., Frenchpark, Co. Roscommon.
- \* Rorke, Timothy, J.P., Camogue, Tusk, Co. Roscommon.
- Shanly, John, Lugbooy House, Elphin, Co. Roscommon.

## SHROPSHIRE

- Arblaſter, W. G., Manſtey, Penkridge, Staffordſhire.
- Aſhmiall, R. H., Hammerwich, Lichfield.
- § Bach, R., White Houſe, Onibury, Craven Arms.
- § † \* Barrs, Mrs. M., Odfone Hall, Atherſtone.
- § † Barter, Richard, St. Ann's Hill, Cork.
- § Batty, E. F., Ballyhealy, Delvin, Ireland.
- Beach, Joſeph, The Hattons, Wolverhampton.
- § † Berry, A. S., Pheafey Farm, Great Barr, Birmingham.
- § Biſhop, H. W., Haughton's Farm, Cleobury Mortimer.
- § Bourne, J. E., The Arbour Farm, Market Drayton.
- \* Bowdage, T. W., Cotton Hall, Denbigh.
- † Bowen-Jones, J., Enſdon Houſe, Montford Bridge, Salop.
- † Bradburne, A., Moat Bank, Lichfield.
- Bray, G., Henwood, Dilwyn, R.S.O., Leominſter.
- § Brown, George, Wolgarſtone, Penkridge, Staffs.
- Brown, Joſeph, Gainsborough Hill, Stonnall, Walsall.
- § † Brown, Richard, Ruyton-XI.-Towns, Shropſhire.
- § † Buttar, David, Corſton, Coupar Angus, N.B.
- † Cheattle, T. F., Doſthill, Tamworth.
- § Conwy, Captain C. Rowley, Bodrhyddan, Rhuddlan,  
N. Wales.
- § † Cooper, R. P., Shenſtone Court, Lichfield.
- \* Coxon, Charles, Elford Park, Tamworth.
- Coxon, J. L., Alrewas Hayes, Lichfield.
- Creswell, R. G., Ravenſtone, Aſhby-de-la-Zouch.
- Cureton, W., M.R.C.V.S., Belmont, Shrewsbury.
- † Darby, A. E. W., Little Neſs, Shrewsbury.
- Davis, J., Agricultural College, Cleobury Mortimer.
- Dawes, W. Menlove, Newhouſe, Craven Arms.
- Dee, J. W., Woollas Hill, Perſhore.
- § Drackley, N., Oſbaſton, Nuneaton.
- § Eardley, D., Weſtbrook, Burton-on-Trent.

SHROPSHIRE—*Continued.*

- § Edwards, Benj., Aldon, Craven Arms.  
 § Edwards, R., Strangworth, Pembridge, Herefordshire.  
 § Edwards Brothers, Stanton Lacy, Bromfield, Salop.  
 † Evans, P. A. & G. T., Sherlowe, Wellington, Salop.  
 Everall, Edward, The Folley Farm, Montford Bridge, Salop.  
 \* Farmer, J. E., Felton, Ludlow, Shropshire.  
 § † \* Fenn, Thomas, Stonebrook House, Ludlow.  
 Foster, A. B., Canwell Hall, Tamworth.  
 Foster, W., Badger Farm, Shifnal.  
 § † \* Foster-Harter, G. L., Puckrup Hall, Tewkesbury.  
 Fowler, John, Lichfield.  
 § Francis, James F., The Gaer Hall, Forden, Welshpool.  
 \* Frank, E. J., Beslow, Wroxeter, Shrewsbury.  
 † Gibson, D., The Fields, Harbury, Leamington.  
 § Gray, D. J. Thomson, Innerpeffray Lodge, Crieff, N.B.  
 Green, G. H., Wigmore Grange, Leintwardine, R.S.O.,  
 Herefordshire.  
 § † \* Harding, John, Norton House, Shifnal.  
 Hawkins, Francis, Sugwas, Hereford.  
 § Heaton, Walter S., Stallington Grange, Blythe Bridge,  
 Stoke-on-Trent.  
 Heygate, Mrs. M. J., Buckland, Leominster.  
 § Holdcroft, T., Newstead, Longton.  
 § Holder, W. T., Clifton-on-Teme, Worcester.  
 Holland, W. E., Avenbury, Bromyard.  
 § \* Hughes, Evan, Manor House, Bedstone, Bucknell, Salop.  
 § Humphreys, W., Evenall, Oswestry.  
 † Inge, W. F., Thorpe Hall, Tamworth.  
 Instone, E., Bourton Grange, Much Wenlock.  
 Jameson, Robert D., Delvin Lodge, Balbriggan, Ireland.  
 § † Jolliffe, C. H., Goldicote, Stratford-on-Avon.  
 Jones, Richard, Preston Boats, Shrewsbury.  
 Jones, Thomas, Cotwall, Wellington, Salop.  
 § Jukes, Thomas G., Tern, Wellington, Salop.  
 Kemp, Benjamin, Wrottesley Lodge, Wolverhampton.  
 Kendrick, E., Weeford House, Lichfield.  
 § † Kidner, E., Park Farm, Cannington, Bridgwater.  
 † Kirkham, W., Bangley Farm, Tamworth.  
 Leche, J. Hurleston, Carden Park, Chester.  
 § Lee, John, The Crimps, Ellesmere.  
 Mansell, Alfred, Crowmere Farm, Shrewsbury.  
 § † \* Mansell, Andrew E., Harrington Hall, Shifnal.  
 Meredith, G. O., Meeson, Wellington, Salop.  
 § Metge, R. H., Athlumney House, Navan, Co. Meath.  
 § † Mills, Philo L., Ruddington Hall, Nottingham.  
 \* Minton, T. S., Montford, Shrewsbury.  
 § † \* Muntz, P. A., M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.

SHROPSHIRE—*Continued.*

- Mytton, Captain D. H., Garth, Welshpool.
- § † \* Naper, J. L., Loughcrew, Oldcastle, Co. Meath.
- § Nevett, W. B., Cotsbrook Hall, Shifnal.
- Nickels, J. Tetley, The Day House, Shrewsbury.
- † Nock, E., Sutton Maddock, Shifnal.
- Nunnerley, Thomas, Whitchurch, Salop.
- § Nunnerley, William, Kenwick, Ellesmere, Salop.
- § † Parker, H. C. G., Brockton Grange, Shifnal.
- \* Parr, L. P., Heath House, Cubbington, Leamington.
- § Parton, Thomas, Weston Hall, Crewe.
- § Peacocke, C. H., Belmont, Wexford, Ireland.
- Powerscourt, The Right Hon. Viscount, Powerscourt,  
Enniskerry.
- Preece, Richard, Cressage, Shropshire.
- § Pryce, R. C., Broughton, Harmer Hill, Salop.
- Pryce, R. Calcot, Shotton, Shrewsbury.
- Pugh, William, Downton-on-the-Rock, Ludlow.
- § † Ramsden, R., Chadwick Manor, Knowle.
- § Rawlings, J., Wooferton, Brimfield, R.S.O., Herefordshire.
- § Reynolds, H. G., The Hall Farm, Snitton, Ludlow.
- § Rose, Miss., Mullaghmore, Monaghan, Ireland.
- § Rudgard, F. W., Hints, Lichfield.
- § † Ryland, H. P., Moxhull Park, Erdington, Birmingham.
- † Sandbach, Colonel S., Hafodunos, Abergale, N. Wales.
- Scratton, D. R., Oggwell, Newton Abbott, Devon.
- † Tanner, A., Shrawardine, Shrewsbury.
- Taylor, R. Sidney House, Wellington, Salop.
- † Thomas, W., The Beam House, Montford Bridge, Salop.
- Turner A. P., The Leen, Pembridge.
- § Vaughan, W., Caynton, Newport, Salop.
- Wainwright, T., Crowgreaves, Bridgnorth, Salop.
- Walford, J. H. N., Ruyton Towers, Shrewsbury.
- § † Wall, Bernard, Hazlewood, Coleshill, Warwickshire.
- Walling, W., The Beech House, Seisdon, Wolverhampton.
- Wheeler, E. V. V., Newnham Court, Tenbury.
- Whitaker, James, Hampton Hall, Worthen, Shrewsbury.
- Whitfield, T. W., Cheswell Grange, Newport, Salop.
- Whitmore, F. A. Wolryche, Laiden Hall, Wenlock.
- † Williams, M., Whiston Grange, Albrighton, Wolverhampton.
- Wolley, Thomas J., Clungunford, Aston-on-Clun.
- Yorke, J. C., Trecwn, Letterston.

## SOUTHDOWN.

- § Ambrose, Alfred, Bell Farm, Harrietsham, Maidstone.
- § \* Brand, Captain, The Honorable, T. S., R.N., Glynde, Lewes.

SOUTHDOWN—*Continued.*

- ‡ Cadogan, Earl, K. G., Culford Hall, Bury-St.-Edmunds.
- § Cooper, Allan, Norton, Bishopstone, Lewes.
- § † Ellis, Edwin, J. P., Summersbury Hall, Shalford, Guildford.
- § † Flux, William, Ampney Crucis, Cirencester.
- § Greenwell, Walpole, Esq., Marden Park, Caterham Valley, Surrey.
- Howard, Hon. Mrs. Cecil, Dutchlands, Gt. Missenden, S.O., Bucks.
- Jennings, Frederick Henry, Cockfield Hall, Bury-St.-Edmunds.
- § ‡ Matthews, Ernest, Chequers Mead, Potters Bar.
- † Newcastle, The Duchess of, Clumber, Worksop.
- § ‡ Pagham Harbour Company, Selsey, Chichester.
- Page, Robert, Bradwell-on-Sea, Southminster, Essex.

## SUFFOLK.

- Brooke, John Kendall, Sibton Park, Yoxford.
- Champion, W. N., Riddlesworth Hall, Thetford.
- Cobbald, Arthur H., Rise Hall, Akenham, Ipswich.
- Cordy, Charles H., Langley's Farm, Walton, Ipswich.
- Creasey, Charles A., Walton, Ipswich.
- Dawson, J. C., Nacton, Ipswich.
- Dudley, Edward, The Cliff, Sutton, Woodbridge.
- ‡ Ellesmere, The Rt. Hon. The Earl of, Stetchworth Park, Newmarket.
- § Flick, Robert, Theberton Grange, Saxmundham.
- Frost, E. P. & H., The Hall, West Wrating, Cambridge.
- Giles, Edwin, Little Holland Hall, Colchester.
- § Green, D. A., Junr., Fingringhoe Hall, Colchester.
- Grimsey, J. R., St. Helena, Dunwich, Saxmundham.
- Hale, M. G., Claydon, Ipswich.
- Hitchcock, Benjamin, Creting, Needham Market.
- Keeble, John R., Brantham Hall, Manningtree.
- § Keeble, Thomas, Bentley Hall, Ipswich.
- King, R. W., Brinkley Hall, Newmarket.
- § † \* Lingwood, Henry, The Chestnuts, Needham Market.
- § \* Lomas, Alfred, Langford Hall, Maldon.
- Lowe, Mrs., Gosfield Hall, Halstead.
- Northend, Henry, Moulton, Newmarket.
- § † Paley, Arthur, Ampton, Bury-St.-Edmunds.
- § Preston, Edwin H., Worlingworth, Wickham Market.
- \* Scrivener, E. Levett, Sibton Abbey, Yoxford.

SUFFOLK—*Continued.*

- § † Sherwood, S. R., Playford, Ipswich.  
 Smith, Clement C., Trimley, Ipswich.  
 Smith, John, Junr., Bovills Hall, Little Clacton, Colchester.  
 § † Smith, Joseph, The Grange, Walton, Ipswich.  
 Stanford Brothers, Beaumont Hall, Colchester.  
 Taylor, Samuel, Ashley Hall, Newmarket.

## WENSLEYDALE BLUE-FACED.

- § Banks, Thomas, Bilsborough, Preston.  
 § ‡ Burra, R., Gate, Sedbergh, R.S.O. Yorks.  
 † Fothergill, J. W., Brownber, Kirkby Stephen.  
 § ‡ Handley, John, Brigflatts, Sedbergh.  
 § Pickering, L. T., Appleby.  
 Procter, Richard, Barkerfield, Downham, Clitheroe.  
 § ‡ Rhodes, William, Lundholme, Westhouse, Kirkby Lonsdale.  
 Richardson, R., Halfway House, Cantsfield, Kirkby Lonsdale.  
 ‡ Willis, T., (The Exors. of the late), Manor House, Carperby,  
 Aysgarth, R.S.O., Yorks.

## WENSLEYDALE LONGWOOL.

- Alderson, E., Bolton Arms Hotel, Leyburn.  
 Bird, F., Coldstone, Sinderby, Thirsk.  
 § † Calvert, John H., Masham, R.S.O., Yorks.  
 § ‡ Cleasby, W., Islebeck Grange, Thirsk.  
 § † Dobson, F. E. C., Dromonby House, Carlton in Cleveland.  
 § \* Green, W. J., High Field Farm, Childerley Gate, Cambridge.  
 Inman, John, Cundall, York.  
 § King, Bentham, Helmsley, York.  
 King, Thomas F., Edgley, Leyburn.  
 § Leake, T. I., Castle Hill, Saxton, Tadcaster.  
 § Peacock, Thomas, Harmby, Leyburn.  
 § ‡ Rhodes, J., Lodge Farm, Stockeld, Wetherby, Yorks.  
 § Todd, W., Carlton Husthwaite, Thirsk.  
 § Watson, John, Thornton Steward, Bedale.  
 § † Wilkinson, Thomas, Cold Harbour, Easingwold.  
 Wood, William, Askew House, Cropton, Pickering, Yorks.





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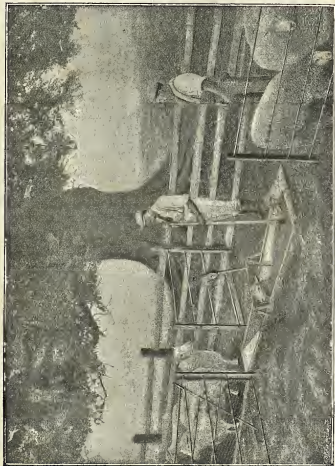
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